

-11-  
CLAIMS

1. A knit design method of creating an image representing a design of a knitted fabric in accordance with an input of a user for generating knitting data used in a knitting machine, the method comprising the steps of:

sliding an area designated by the user in a course direction to deform the area into an area having a simple shape;

changing design data of the deformed area in accordance with the input of the user; and

then, returning the area after the change of design data to the original position before sliding.

2. A knit design method according to claim 1, wherein the area comprises an oblique stripe-like portion at an end of the knitted fabric, and is deformed by sliding into a shape in which the longitudinal direction of the area is vertically substantially straight.

3. An apparatus for creating an image representing a design of a knitted fabric in accordance with an input of a user, and converting the image into knitting data used in a knitting machine, the apparatus comprising:

means for sliding an area designated by the user in a course direction to deform the area into an area having a simple shape;

means for changing design data of the deformed area in accordance with the input of the user; and

means for returning the area after the change of the design data to the original position before sliding.